

Bridgeworkers, Trainmen and Steel Workers to Receive Less Money.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—The wages of the piersworkers at the American Bridge Company's works were reduced ten per cent. today. A thousand men are affected.

Pittsburg, Dec. 28.—The employees of the Union Railroad Company, with the exception of the trainmen, have been notified of a ten per cent. reduction in wages, to take place January 1st. The Union Railroad Company is connected with the Carnegie company, and is a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—The Bloomington and Open Hearth mills of the Inland Steel Company at Indian Harbor, were running with union men today for the first time in nearly two months. These nine hundred men struck because of a decrease in wages, and have now accepted a reduction of ten per cent.

MOST NUTRITIOUS AND ECONOMICAL, AND STILL THE BEST

Soft mellow Flavored Whiskey produced by age and high quality

Mrs. F. R. Grover of New Richmond, came down on the Charmer last evening and is spending a few days with relatives in the city.

If you are losing appetite, lying awake nights, take Hood's Sarsaparilla—it's just the tonic you need.

WM. W. NORTHCOTT,
Assessor.

MOST NUTRITIOUS AND ECONOMICAL, AND STILL THE BEST

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THE GOVERNMENT'S COURSE APPROVED.

From all parts of the Province come notes of approval of the course which the Provincial Government has adopted in dealing with the unsatisfactory condition of the finances. Absolutely free from any responsibility for the situation, it would not have been a matter for surprise had the new administration have met the situation in a spirit of compromise. Everyone knows that an increase in the burdens of taxation almost inevitably injures the popularity of a government that is responsible for it. The popular memory is very short; to touch the pockets of the public is to do something that arouses a feeling of resentment among most men. That the necessity of such action is so clear that no one man successfully dispute it, cuts little figure. All that is considered is that the demands of the tax collector are greater than under former administrations. Then, too, comes retrenchment, and the refusal of expenditures which in the past have been granted by those who took no thought for the morrow, but were content if the distribution of grants in every direction ensured them support throughout the country. All these things must have occurred to the members of the present Government when they were under the necessity of meeting the Legislature and laying before it a definite proposal for dealing with the enormous actual deficit that their predecessors had bequeathed to them, and for devising a plan for establishing an equilibrium between the revenue and expenditure. Small wonder would it have been had the Government shrunk from facing the situation boldly and proposed something in the nature of a compromise and the partial postponement of an unpleasant duty.

That the Opposition anticipated that the Government's proposals would be of the nature of a compromise and that it would shrink from grappling with the situation in a thorough and complete manner, is apparent from the columns of the Opposition press. When the Government's proposals were submitted to the House, when it was seen that the whole situation had not only been fully grasped by the Government, but provision made for dealing with it completely and restoring the finances to a sound position without delay, and with complete indifference to the effect that such a course might have on the Government's popularity, the Opposition press was taken by surprise. The ground on which it had taken its stand was cut from under it. The very things that it asserted the Government would not dare to do, the Bills submitted to the Legislature accomplished. Then another tack was taken, one so directly opposite to that which these critics had previously assumed, that the reason was apparent even to the most careless and superficial person. It was declared that the Government was crushing enterprise, confiscating people's property, interfering with vested rights and anxious only to fill its coffers, whatever might be the hardships imposed on those upon whom the demands for greater contributions to the revenue were made. Figures were twisted to support these contentions. Impossible theories as to results of the proposals were invented. Attempts were made to create agitation throughout the country against the "outrageous imposts" that it was proposed to levy.

We are inclined to think that these misand groundless attacks on the Government have already rebounded to its credit. They set people thinking; they made men ask one another what the Government was doing if these charges were correct. Inquiry was stimulated, and notwithstanding the dislike which most people feel at heavier taxation, it was soon realized that the result of the Government's policy would be the restoration of Provincial credit and the commencement of a new and sounder era in Provincial finance. Then the tide of public opinion turned, and, as we have said, there is a feeling throughout the Province that the Government deserves no small need of praise for the courage it has displayed in meeting the situation boldly and without delay. While there may be some defects in detail in the measures the Government proposed and which it has carried through the House with the loyal support of its followers, there is a very general feeling that there has been an honest desire shown to make the incidence of taxation more equitable, and that many of those best able to meet taxation but who, in the past, have escaped bearing their fair share of the public burdens, will now be brought to do so, while the less wealthy portion of the community will be more leniently dealt with. In the course of the next fiscal year the full results of the Government's policy will be realized, in the disappearance of annual deficits, an equilibrium established and the possibility of reductions in taxation substituted for the necessity of increasing the public burdens.

ANOTHER WRONG UNRIGHTED.

The rebuke which the electors of North Renfrew gave on Saturday last to Mr. Ross, for having deprived them for many months of representation in the Legislature, should be taken to heart by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and acted upon, lest a worse thing befall him. For the Federal authorities are as guilty as were those of Ontario. The people of the St. James division of Montreal have been for months without any representation in the Dominion parliament. The Liberal declared elected for that constituency was unseated for bribery and corruption, and the seat declared vacant. The Conservatives have renominated their candidate, Mr. Bergeron, who, as a matter of fact, should now be occupying the seat. But the Government refuses to give the necessary instructions for an election and the constituency is therefore disfranchised. So both in the Federal and the Provincial political sphere, we see that Liberals when in control of the electoral machinery, do not hesitate to block its operations when, as a result of allowing them to proceed in a constitutional manner they are fearful that the success of a Conservative candidate would follow.

These incidents at North Renfrew and Montreal will be object lessons for the people of Canada. If they are to recur in other places; if such high-handed proceedings like those taken by two Liberal administrations in those constituencies are to be allowed to pass without censure, the principles of constitutional government will be greatly weakened and brought into disrepute. It is only a question of degree to the stage when an unscrupulous administration—whether Liberal or Conservative makes no difference, as such things being tolerated would come a common degeneracy—would come to manipulate constituencies sufficient to maintain itself in office against the wish of the people. Mr. Ross is very near to that point already, and doubtless the recognition of the weak hold he had on the electorate throughout Ontario, was the reason that caused him to disfranchise North Renfrew for many months. Facilis decessus Averi, and it is not difficult to imagine that if two other constituencies now represented by his supporters should become vacant, that Mr. Ross would venture to apply to them the same treatment as he dealt out to North Renfrew, for fear that Conservative successes might wipe out his majority.

This matter is not one of a party character. It strikes at the very root of free and popular government. To tolerate such things would be to hand over the control of public affairs to little oligarchies composed of men who having, by some means or other, clambered into office, were determined to continue to hold power whatever might be the wishes of the people. How different is the manner in which electoral matters are conducted in England. Within the last month three constituencies were left vacant there by the death of the members. Without delay the Speaker issued his writs and all three elections have been held. It was very doubtful whether the Government could retain these seats. But that made no difference and caused no delay. No government would dare (even if it desired, which is unthinkable) to delay an election for party purposes. Indeed, it has not the power. It would be well for the Conservative party to pledge itself to make such amendments to the election laws, whether Federal or Provincial, as shall make impossible in the future any repetition of such scandalous abuses as we have witnessed in North Renfrew and Montreal.

It seems as though the anticipations formed as to the result of the large increase in the Chinese capitation tax will be realized, and that it will in its effects be almost equivalent to a complete exclusion of the coolie class from Canada.

We observe that some of the Opposition newspapers are offering Mr. McBride effusive good wishes at this season of the year. Balaam's ass once made a memorable speech, somewhat on the same lines, and we do not despise these unexpected expressions of goodwill to the Provincial Premier by these Twentieth Century successors of that humble but historical animal.

PRESS COMMENT.

By the evil star of the Koreans it has been arranged that their land is to be the Switzerland of the Far East—a territory to be fought over for ever, but one that no nation either itself possess or allow any other to hold. Korea is the victim of her geographical advantages, and the impressionist carries away with him the picture of a people industriously patient, dumb with the consciousness of despair, that yet has the secret of happiness in its power to extract joy from the most unpromising material; a nation stunted by the oppression of centuries, but mentally and morally vigorous—yet still stolid, and capable, perhaps, of both a nation of sturdy apathetic sheep, whose silent indifference under the driving lash of the world may some day be found unexpectedly to have its limits or its possibilities.—Mr. Reginald Farrer, in the Nineteenth Century.

Mr. Arnold Foster is understood to have given his approval to a scheme for reducing the military expenditure. A reformer such as he is must naturally hope that the efficiency of the Army system will not be impaired thereby. He has virtually approved Mr. Brodie's vaunted scheme, and his first task, it is believed, is to reduce the army corps, which are found to be too large. Other changes are in contemplation, and we shall soon find the system in the melting pot again. If this be the result—and in military clubs the report is said to be in the main accurate—Mr. Ivor Guest, Mr. P. Mr. Winston Churchill, and others, who were called the "Malcobites," will have been fully justified in their criticism in fact, before he left office, Mr. Brodie had to admit the correctness of their judgment in many respects.—Navy and Army Record.

The year seems to be closing as it began, with an unusually large number of railroad wrecks. When the record for the year shall have been completed it will probably be found that the total loss of life and property is considerably in excess of anything heretofore experienced in railroad history. At the beginning of the year catastrophes were chronicled almost daily, and there has not been a month which has not witnessed several wrecks with serious fatalities.—Spokane Spokesman-Review.

J. W. Bengough is again at work on the Globe. He was once a good cartoonist, but the humor flew out of the windows of his cartoons when his fierce political partisanship entered the door. His caricatures are not what they used to be. The robber N. P. is still doing violence to the old "Wily" did you not see him see your birth register?—Chicago News.

strapped on his shoulders with ropes. He probably worked the poor old man to death before the advent of Laurier with Free Trade in his promises and Protection in his performances. Bengough, like Jimmie Briggs, ceased to be a good humorist when he became a crochety oddity. Humor does not flourish in the same atmosphere with fads. It is a food—not a fad.—Hamilton Spectator.

Mr. Schwab, like other less prominent men who have been "caught with the goods on 'em," denies that he has been guilty of any wrongdoing in connection with the shipyard scandal. From his point of view he is undoubtedly right. The late million-dollar president of the steel trust has been nurtured for so long in a peculiar environment that it has left its impress on him. The law of the land, as well as the law of might, makes it right for the steel trust to overcharge American consumers and cut down American wages in order that the foreign consumer can have cheap steel. The power thus given by the legalizing of a monopoly enables the trust to control transportation and make discriminatory rates, which threaten competition at home, and it is prevented from entering from abroad.—Portland Oregonian.

PROVINCIAL PRESS.

Jas. Cook has returned from his trip to Valdez Island, and reports that no trace has been discovered of his brother-in-law, Mr. Yentum, although the country for miles round has been searched and re-searched during the past six weeks. He speaks very highly of Messrs. Pilecock Bros. & Co., who shut down their mill and turned out all hands and supplied them with a steam launch and provisions for over two weeks, to assist in the search, at their expense, and still without success.—Delta News.

Mr. F. Rosenberg left Ashcroft Wednesday night for Revelstoke, where he was to be married yesterday to Miss A. B. Ward, a well-known and popular young lady of Ashcroft, who is returning from visiting her parents at Embury, Ont. Mr. G. Ward, of the Ashcroft Hotel, is her brother. The happy pair are expected in Ashcroft tonight.—Ashcroft Journal.

Passengers who arrived in this city yesterday from the East report that on Tuesday a man was run down and killed, injured by a passenger train at a point five miles east of Warden. The unfortunate man was walking along the track the same way the train was moving. The engineer caught sight of him just as a sharp curve was rounded and whistled to give him warning to get off the track. Gladly he put on the air brakes in the hope of stopping the train, but this was too late. The cowcatcher struck the man and threw him with great violence twenty feet down an embankment.—Nelson News.

This afternoon a wagon in which were several Indians went over a bank on a hill near Ritchie McDonald's on the Nicola river. Two Indians, a man and his wife, were instantly killed, and another Indian is so badly injured that he is expected to live out the day.—Kamloops Standard.

On Saturday three parts of the force of the Enterprise were let out of employment, some of the men going to Rossland, some to New Denver, and the balance coming here. The impossible state of the roads, preventing the ore going out, is the given reason for the reduction. About 40 men were affected. At the mine, affairs are in good shape, the bins being full of ore, and the shovels in all the principal workings. The reduction is but temporary.—Slocan Drill.

Charles Ehlers has been summoned suddenly to Poplar Creek, and will have to leave on Christmas Day, by the reception of the news that his wife, who had been to the Dominion and Dick, commonly known as the Buffalo claim, having gone through. The claims were acquired by Mr. Ehlers and his associates early this month, and have now been sold to Spokane parties. Mr. Ehlers still retaining an interest.—Rossland World.

Mr. G. A. Fraser, M. P. P., returned Thursday from Victoria and will remain here until the house resumes its sittings on January 11th. He reports that the government is gaining strength and that Mr. McBride is proving himself to be an able leader. Valuable legislation involving the re-arrangement of the provincial finances, was passed and other important measures were adopted. Mr. Fraser says the government has the majority without the support of the labor or Socialist members and is fully able to carry on the affairs of the country.—Grand Forks News-Gazette.

"THIRTY."

(From the Vancouver News-Advertiser.)
To a colleague who laid down his pen on Christmas Eve, 1903.

Your work is done.
Your third hand has penned the latest line.
Of the good word the world has won from you.
Your "copy" all is in.
Before the Editor-in-Chief above.
Your proofs lie clean, their whiteness made more pure.
By blazoned guerdon for a task performed.
In good and faithful service to the end.
The words "Well Done."—R. S. W.

THE NEWS FROM LHASA.

Political Situation Gives Special Interest to January Century Article.

The curiosity which has always existed concerning Tibet by reason of the exclusion of foreigners has given special interest to any addition that has been made to the world's meager knowledge of that country, particularly of Lhasa, "the forbidden city." This curiosity is now greatly enhanced by the political situation which has in it the possibility of a clash between Russia and Great Britain concerning Tibetan affairs. According to French-Russophile journals, the recent despatch of the British expeditionary force into the interior of Tibet, into the territory of Tibet, in order to demonstrate to the Dalai Lama the necessity of observing his treaty obligations, has excited continental alarm, as it takes on the form, in some minds, of a move for the British protectorate of Tibet. That Russia is alive to her own interests in this quarter is shown in an article in the January Century, entitled "The Latest News from Lhasa." In the course of a personal narrative of his visit to Lhasa in disguise, the writer, a Japanese Buddhist priest, Eiki Kawaguchi, has this to say of Russia's overtures to Tibet.

The Dalai Lama has lately concluded a secret treaty with Russia, and an exchange of presents were made with the Czar. The embassy of the Czar was a Buriat Mongol lama, whose name was always heard of to come and go, visit and make pilgrimages about Lhasa. Working through the three tutors of the Dalai Lama, he was received and treated with in 1900. Three hundred camels and mules were sent to Russia in 1902, and I saw some of the new rifles which then came. Formerly the old fusil was the only firearm in use in Tibet, and the Russians high and low were astounded at the quality of these muskets, and knew no bounds in their admiration of Russian mechanical skill. As a matter of fact, the rifles in question were of American manufacture, and their range was, at the most, only five hundred meters. I saw the actual things myself at the time.

Among other gifts sent by the Czar to the Dalai Lama was a complete set of the vestments of a high-ranking Buddhist monk—cloth of gold garments embroidered with precious stones, and a tall gold cap sewed with pearls. The Dalai Lama did not know that the Russians had a religion different from the Tibetan. He believed the Russian, like the Buriat Mongols, were all Buddhists, and the Czar a great Bodhisattva possessed of mystic powers. He was pleased with this gift of rich clothing and sometimes wore it.

RISIBILITIES.

"In society? Surely not. Why, they got their money in trade." "Yes, but they lost it at bridge."—Detroit Free Press.

Miss Antiquity—He says there are historical inaccuracies in the Bible. Miss Causty—Why, did you not see your birth register?—Chicago News.

Teacher—What is the "house not made

Special For Tuesday

Boys' Good Tweed Overcoats in Oxford Grey, and in Navy Blue with stripes; well lined and made, and good fitters. Sizes are for boys 8 to 15 years. Sale prices are \$3.75 to \$4.25.

Special for Tuesday \$2.50 Each

All Men's and Boys' Overcoats reduced from 20 per cent to 30 per cent. If you want bargains come in and see them.

W. G. CAMERON
VICTORIA'S CHEAPEST CASH CLOTHIER.
55 JOHNSON ST.

Queen's Head Galvanized Iron.

Works best, lies flattest, and lasts longest, therefore is the cheapest. Every sheet guaranteed.

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The Lady—I gave you a piece of pie last week, and you've been sending your friends here ever since. The Trump—You're mistaken, lady. Them was my enemies.—Judge.

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Abbey's Effervescent Salt

can always be depended upon to restore the system to its natural condition and keep you in good sound health. A gentle laxative it helps nature to rid the system of poisonous impurities, stimulates the liver and tones up the digestive organs. At all Druggists 25c. and 60c.

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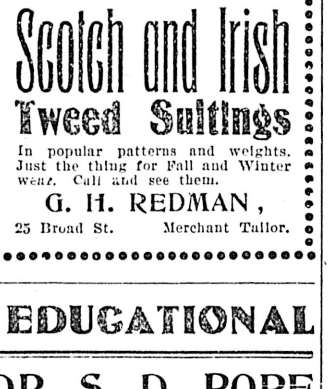
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SPENCER'S

Silver Novelties at Special Prices

Western Canada's Big Store

NEW YEAR GIFTS

Give a Man a Scarf

That is Plain Black or White if you are afraid to choose colors for him.

Have you seen the new Four-in-one Scarfs? Can be tied as a Derby, Ascot, Flowing End and the new once-over style. Prices 50c., 75c. and \$1.00.

Shown Tuesday

Another lot of Foundation Collars arrived today. Price 10c., all sizes.

New Spot Lustre Waists, trimmed ornaments. Price \$2.00.

Black and Navy Cheviots, trimmed neat pleats. Prices \$25.00, \$30.00 and \$35.00 each.

Silver Novelties Reduced

Sterling Silver Photo Frames, \$1.00 ones for 50c.; \$2.50 ones for \$1.25.

Sterling Manture Pieces; 60c. ones for 25c.; \$1.00 ones for 50c. Files, Cuticles, Horns, Combs, Hat Brushes, Whisks, Tooth Brushes, Burnishers, Blotters, Darners, Match Cases.

Three-fold Mirrors, \$1.25 ones for 50c. Collar and Cuff Boxes, 75c. ones for 25c. Waste Paper Boxes, \$1.50 ones for \$1.00. Vases, 50c. ones for 10c.; \$1.25 ones for 50c. Bronze Ornaments, \$3.50 ones for \$1.00.

New Year Slipper Sale, Ladies' Slippers, Men's Slippers, Girls' Slippers, as Follows Wednesday and Thursday:

Ladies' Slippers: \$1.15, \$1.25, \$1.35 kinds Wednesday 65c. pair.

Men's Slippers: \$1.50 kinds, Wednesday 65c. pair.

Men's \$1.00 kinds, Wednesday 35c. pair.

Children's 65c. and 85c. Slippers, Wednesday 35c.

Underwear for Men, Women and Children.

Fifteen Cases of Underwear arrived yesterday. This has been the most difficult season we have experienced in keeping up our Stock of Underwear. Under wear mills have been running night and day throughout Canada, and many lines have been advanced in price during the past three months. Our order was taken at the old price, and we will continue to sell our well-known makes of Underwear at the well-known prices that we have established. During the past month we have been out of our best selling numbers, and our customers tell us, in trying to match them elsewhere, have had to pay as much as 25 cents more for the same garments.

Boys' Heavy Natural Underwear, from 35c.
Boys' Light-weight Natural Underwear, from 50c.
Boys' Heavy Wool and Cotton Mixed, from 15c.

Boys' Light-weight Natural Merino, from 25c.
Men's Natural Wool Underwear: sizes 32 to 44. Price \$1.00; all sizes.
Ladies' Natural Wool Vests and Drawers; two styles of Vests;

buttoned across chest or the ordinary style, buttoned down front. Drawers, open or closed; all sizes 1 to 6; our price \$1.00 each. Ladies' Fine Soft English Natural Merino Vests and Drawers, \$1.50 each.

78 Walking Skirts Today \$3 50

Colors Black and Navy. Six rows stitching on bottom and stitched seams.

A good quality serge which we have thoroughly tested; sizes 23 to 35 waist measure; 36 to 42 lengths. TODAY \$3.50.

Han'kerchiefs

We will sell all the Handkerchiefs used in the decorations at reduced prices Wednesday and Thursday. Some good qualities in the lot.

See window today for 25c. and 50c. Silver Novelties reduced.

Lustre

Black and Navy Spots; trimmed ornaments. TODAY \$2.00.

Black and Navy Stripes; trimmed ornaments. TODAY \$1.75.

ENLARGEMENTS
From your Kodak Films make nice XMAS PRESENTS
Kodaks and supplies. Blue and Black blue printing.
FLEMING BROS., Govt. St.

Scotch and Irish Tweed Suitings
In popular patterns and weights. Just the thing for Fall and Winter wear. Call and see them.
G. H. REDMAN,
25 Broad St. Merchant Tailor.

EDUCATIONAL

DR. S. D. POPE
announces that on the solicitation of parents, he has decided to open a

Day School for Girls Only
This school will provide a

OUR SEIDLITZ POWDERS

Relieve you of that Tired Feeling.
Take one before Breakfast.

CYRUS H. BOWES
CHEMIST,

98 Government Street, near Yates
Phones: 425 and 450

Holiday Goods

Ebony Mirrors,
Ebony Hair Brushes,
Ebony Cloth Brushes,
Ebony Dressing Cases

A full line of high grade Perfumes put up in newest styles suitable for holiday presents.

HALL & CO.,

Dispensing Chemists.
Clarence Block,
Cor. Yates and Douglas Sts.

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Heating Stoves—own make— all sizes, at Clarke & Pearson's, 17 Yates street.

Special—Carpenters' Tools at Cheapside.

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A new display of Pictures is being exhibited at Savannah's entrance, Five Sisters' Block.

Gardening Tools at Cheapside.

Shannon Files and Binding Cases and other office requisites at Hibben's.

Have you seen
the latest gun?

**The Browning
Automatic**

—AT—

John Barnesley & Co.,
115 GOVERNMENT ST.

Agents for Spalding Athletic Goods.

Holiday Goods!

Holiday Gifts!
Holiday Novelties at
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THE B. C. DRUG STORE

27 Johnson Street.

Call and examine goods and prices.
Phone 350. TEAGUE, JR.

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At Cost

See Our Windows For
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Ormond's Bookstore, %
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Boys' and Girls' Annuals at Hibben's.

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LIMITED.

Best Equipped Hack and Livery Stable in the Province.

All Rubber-Tired Hacks and Fleet Livery Turnouts. Baggage, Furniture and Freight handled at reasonable rates and with dispatch.

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ORIENTAL BAR

Very Choice of Liquors, Cigars, etc.
Only the best kept.

JOS. DUBOIS.

ROYAL CAFE

First-Class Turkey Lunch and Dinner served every day during Xmas week. Price 25 cents.

Quick Service Guaranteed

**Are You In
Need Of a
New Hat?**

We Can Please You

New Styles, Standard
Qualities, Large Stock,
Good Values.

W. & J. WILSON

Clothiers, Hatters

and Furnishers

42 Government St.

Was a Record.—Christmas business in Victoria was heavier than any recorded for the season for some years past. In some respects it was the best business ever done in the city.

Sent Cigars.—Shallcross & Macaulay sent the members of the postoffice staff a box of choice Havana cigars as a Christmas present. The gift was much appreciated.

Tramway Boys' Thanks.—The thanks of the employees of the B. C. Electric Railway Company are extended to H. H. Henchman, K. C., for cigars provided on Christmas.

Point Ellice Bridge.—A Colonist reporter visited the Point Ellice bridge yesterday and found work well on the way on the first span. A large gang of men are at work, and the erection is making rapid progress.

To Improve Hotel.—It is intended within a few days to inaugurate extensive improvements at the Dawson hotel building on Yates street. The whole interior is to be remodelled and the house put in an up-to-date condition.

An Interesting Paper.—In the current issue of the Canadian Educational Review, Toronto, appears the able paper by Mr. David Wilson, B. A., provincial inspector of schools, on "School Libraries." The paper has caused quite a deal of discussion from one end of Canada to the other.

For the Orphans.—Mrs. M. E. Marr, proprietress of the Boomerang hotel, has, with her customary generosity, this year remembered the inmates of the "Greatest Orphans' Home" in a very substantial fashion, having forwarded to the institution a large packing case crammed full of the sort of things to delight the childish heart.

Photos Wanted.—If any persons have in their possession any photographs of orchards with an excellent crop of fruit in evidence, the Tourist Association will be much obliged if they would leave copies of the same on file with the secretary, as the association wishes to call more attention than formerly to this industry.

School for Girls.—Dr. S. D. Pope announced that he has decided to open a day school for girls only on January 6th. This school will provide a full public school course. Dr. Pope is well known in education circles throughout the West, and none is more qualified to conduct a school such as he intends to open.

Donations Acknowledged.—The management of the Isolation hospital acknowledge Christmas donations from the following: Ladies' Auxiliary, for Christmas trees; Daughters of Pitt, for cakes, etc.; Mrs. R. H. MacMillan, toys, etc.; Miss Cornwall, fruit, etc.; Mrs. C. F. Todd, games; Terry & Marett, for candies; T. N. Hibben & Co., games, etc.

Smugglers Busy.—A boatload of Chinese were landed at Bremerton, the Puget Sound naval yard, on Wednesday night, and immigration officials have since been keeping a close watch on the British Columbia coast, and the Sound in the nefarious traffic. Two of the Chinamen landed at Bremerton were captured and imprisoned but the others escaped.

Made His Escape.—On Christmas Day C. Cupman, a sailor from H. M. S. Grafton, who was placed under arrest aboard ship some time ago charged with assaulting a couple of petty officers, made his escape. He was given leave to enjoy himself on the shore, taking advantage of the opportunity, it is said, secured the services of a boatman and got ashore, disappearing immediately.

Their Annual Treat.—The annual treat and Christmas tree entertainment of the B. C. Protestant Orphanage will be held at the home on Hillside avenue from 5 to 6 o'clock this afternoon. The public are invited to the Christmas tree, and donations of toys, clothing, and other articles for the children, and donations of gifts for the tree or provisions for the home, will be thankfully received. Parcels left with R. Porter & Sons will be delivered to the home.

Banquet to Newsboys.—Senator Templeman will this evening tender the newspaper carriers and newsboys a banquet at the Vernon hotel. In addition to over sixty boys a few other guests, including representatives of local newspapers, the city's parliamentary representatives, etc., have been asked to be present, while His Honor the Lieutenant Governor and His Worship the Mayor are expected to grace the occasion by their presence.

Tourist Association.—Following is an item appearing in a recent issue of the Winnipeg Free Press: "The Tourist Association of Victoria, B. C., who were largely instrumental in inducing the C. P. R. to run excursions to the Coast, which have been in progress during the past three days, and which will be continued on January 12th, 13th and 14th, is putting forth every effort to popularize the Coast as a winter holiday resort. The beauties and attractions of Victoria are freely and fully advertised."

Laid to Rest.—The funeral of the late Mr. N. C. Schon took place yesterday afternoon at Vancouver. At 1.15 the cortege left Messrs. Center & Hanna's undertaking parlors, and proceeded to Holy Trinity church, Fairview, where Rev. J. A. A. vicar, conducted the services. The funeral procession left the church sharp at 2 o'clock for Mountain View cemetery. The members of Immanuel L. O. lodge, of which the deceased was a member, paraded in a body at the funeral.

Handled Big Business.—Mr. J. Oliver, manager of the local Dominion Express office, referring to the holiday trade this season, says that just twice the amount of express matter passed through his office as there was a year ago. On Wednesday last there were shipped to people in the Terminal City alone 130 different packages. This, in the local office, was a record-breaker. All points between Victoria and Halifax in the number of parcels sent this Christmas was particularly large. The bulk of that sent foreignwise went, of course, to England, but a great deal was also sent to other countries. Mr. Oliver also reports that money order department of his office did a big business, many Christmas gifts having been given in this form, the sums in all doubling the grand aggregate of other Christmas.

Hurrying to Far East.—A passenger for Orient by the steamer Empress of India, which sailed yesterday evening, was Mr. Irwin Laughlin, who has been attached to the American legation at Tokyo, Japan. Mr. Laughlin is from Pittsburg, Pa., but came direct to Washington and took the C. P. R. route in preference to that via San Francisco because it was much shorter. He was appointed as second secretary to the American ambassador at Tokyo for the season that he has been in Japan previously for many years, and was familiar with conditions in that country, though he had not been there for some time. Mr. Laughlin said the situation in the Far East was very serious, and that hostilities might break out at any time, though he was hopeful that the difficulties would be settled over. He was making all haste to get to the end of his trip, and was hoping to reach Tokyo before the situation assumed a more critical aspect.

Let's Diaries and Office Supplies of all kinds can be had in greatest variety from T. N. Hibben & Co. than anywhere else in the city.

RISK'S SPECIAL RESERVE SCOTCH WHISKEY

A special vatting of the cream of Old Highland Whiskies.
Matured for many years in Sherry Wood before being bottled.

Snow Coming.—An arrival from Sooke on Sunday evening reports that there is a good three feet of the heavy snow on the hills in that district. It would not be a surprise if Victoria had a fall in the near future.

A Small Blaze.—The firemen had a run last evening to Fernwood road, between Clarendon and Pembroke, to the residence of Mr. Potts, tailor. A barrel of lime had caused the fire and the brigade had no trouble in extinguishing it. There was no damage done.

Railway Promotion.—Mr. J. B. White, of the White Pass & Yukon railway, has been promoted general passenger and freight agent, with headquarters at Vancouver. He left Vancouver yesterday for Skagway on his first official trip.

Aid of Mission Schools.—The children of the Rose Circle of the King's Daughters are preparing a musical to be given in the Philharmonic hall on Saturday, January 9th, at 2 p. m. in aid of the mission schools for Indian children in the province of British Columbia.

Herbert Eyles Dead.—Herbert Edmund Eyles, aged 31 years, and a native of Sussex, England, died at the residence of his parents, No. 78 Rock Bay avenue, yesterday. Deceased was the second son of the well-known photographer of Yates street. The funeral will take place tomorrow at 2 p. m. from the above address. The Rev. W. D. Barber will conduct the services.

Hospital Presents.—An error was made in stating that the Christmas gifts at the Jubilee hospital were presented by Dr. and Mrs. Hassell. They were donated by numerous friends of the hospital, including the British Shipyard, the Daughters of Pitt and the Women's Auxiliary, all of which will be gratefully acknowledged in the monthly report of those societies.

Neill-Bechtel.—At Broadbaltine last evening the Rev. Dr. Campbell celebrated the marriage of Thomas Neill and Blanche Elizabeth Bechtel, both well known in this city. The bridegroom was supported by Laurel S. Humber and Peter Cook, and the bridesmaid was Mabel V. Bechtel, the bride's sister. The young couple will make their home in Vancouver.

Violin Artist.—Mr. Luce at the Edison theatre has been an adept on the violin, and gives a turn which is most interesting and a rare treat to a musician. His playing is masterly, and yesterday he created a very good impression on those who had the pleasure of hearing him. Mullaly & Co. have secured for Mr. Luce Miss Hazel Kirk Clarke, song and dance, and splendid moving pictures, the poachers and spiritualist manifestations make a strong bill.

Tendered Resignation.—Dr. A. G. Hopkins, Dominion veterinary surgeon, has tendered his resignation to the government at Ottawa, and has accepted the position of editor of the Western edition of the Canadian Veterinary Journal, the leading agricultural paper has its head office at London, Ont., but Dr. Hopkins will be located at Winnipeg, whence its Western edition is issued. Dr. Hopkins has acted as Dominion veterinary surgeon for the province for the past few months, and was the first official to receive the appointment.

Cinderella Postponed.—The Cinderella to have been given in Assembly hall by the public and friends of the school of her dancing classes January 1st, has been postponed to January 8th. Children will hold possession from 7.30 to 10 o'clock, when a dainty repast will be served. Programmes will then be distributed and the older folks given the floor. Refreshments will be served at midnight and dancing continue until the small hours. Invitations will not be issued for this dance, but tickets may be procured from members of the classes at Alexandra College hall, Government street. Bandmaster Finn will supply the music.

Junior Conservatives.—At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Junior Conservatives, held last evening, it was resolved on motion of Mr. Jay that the secretary of the club write the individual members of the executive of the Liberal-Conservative Association, inviting them to attend a meeting of the executive of the association at as early a date as possible, to be fixed by the president for the purpose of arranging a meeting for the selection of a candidate for this constituency at the coming election for the House of Commons. Messrs. D. W. Higgins, R. G. Shires and George Jay were appointed a committee to draft rules of order.

Turkish Baths.—The new Turkish baths which are located in the basement of the Driard hotel, where, on Thursday last, opened for business, and may now be said to be in full swing. Although some improvements may no doubt yet be made, the baths are well equipped and comfortable, and the complete and comfortable for the Pacific Coast, with neat and comfortable dressing rooms and parlors for both ladies and gentlemen, and safe deposits for the safe-keeping of the personal effects of patrons as well as an up-to-date barber shop in connection. The proprietor, Mr. Schmidt, is not only a professional himself in the business, but has also with him a courteous and obliging staff of professional masseurs and masseuses, so that the patrons of the Turkish baths may look for perfection in every detail. The baths should prove a great help to the city at any season, but more particularly during the tourist season. Mr. Schmidt with a staff of workmen, worked nearly night and day since commencing the construction work and is desirous of much praise for the successful way in which he carried the work to completion.

Blank Books in greater variety to select from at Hibben's than elsewhere in the city.

Everything marked in plain figures at Weilers, and only one price for every day in the year. You run no risk of paying more than your neighbor when buying here.

Call On
Alex. Peden,
Merchant Tailor,
36 FORT STREET,

for a Good Suit, Overcoat or Pair of Trousers. Stock New and Up-to-Date.

Get One of Those

READY-TO-WEAR HATS

AT THE

White House

ALL REDUCED IN PRICE.

Wedding at Chemainus.—A quiet wedding took place at Chemainus on Saturday last, when Miss Spencer, late of Cumberland hospital, was united to Captain Hemming, of the British ship Dryad, now loading lumber at Whatcom. Miss Spencer was well known here as a nurse at the Chemainus hospital, and Captain Hemming met his fate there.

For your New Year's dinner don't forget a large platter for your turkey. We have them in all colors and shapes; also a few Well Dishes. Large variety of Roast Pans in stock. R. A. Brown & Co., 80 Douglas street.

Merchants' Lunch at the Imperial Cafe and Restaurant is exceedingly reliable.

THE FINE, MELLOW FLAVOR
And great age of BLACK & WHITE makes it the popular Scotch Whisky, and accounts for its large sale the world over. For sale in Victoria by Fell, Carne, Ross, Saunders, West End Grocery and leading bars.

The contract holders of the Dominion Co-operative Home Building Association (now the People's Loan and Deposit Company), are invited to be present at a meeting to be held in the Pioneer hall, Broad street, on Tuesday evening, December 29th, at 7.30 o'clock. W. J. HOLDEN, vice president.

FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER
Drink BLACK & WHITE, the popular Scotch Whisky—as supplied the Imperial House of Commons.

IMPERIAL HOTEL.—Elegantly furnished rooms. Cafe and Bar open day and night. First-class in every respect, at reasonable prices. Cor. View and Douglas streets, Victoria, B. C. Schmidt & Gonsell, proprietors.

Kodaks and Albums suitable for Xmas presents at Fleming Bros., Government street.

Hibben & Co.'s long experience enables them to know how best to cater to the requirements of the office trade.

THREE NEW HOT DRINKS—TOMATO BRACER, CLAM COCKTAILS, K. P. C. WINE—TRY THEM.

If you want your allotted "lit-
the here below" NOW, use the
want columns

**NEW YEAR'S CAKES.
SCOTCH SHORT
BREAD.**

For your Scotch friends New Year's Day. Whipped Cream Goods, Chocolate, Eccles, Charlotte Russe Buns, Cream Rolls, etc. etc. etc. of our Trifles and Charlotte Russes will be much appreciated at your dinner table.

CLAY'S
Tel. 101. 39 Fort St.

**WHAT IS YOUR
REQUIREMENT?**

For the New Year

A City Home, A Farm, A Business, a Loan, or an Investment for your surplus funds

We can accommodate you with any of the above.

P. R. Brown,
LIMITED,
30 BROAD ST.

SHORTHAND AND TYPEWRITING
Of All Descriptions.
MISS H. M. McDONALD,
35 Fort St. Telephone 637.
Office E. A. Harris & Co.

**Fancy Dress
Cinderella Dance**
Assembly Hall
**POSTPONED TO
Friday, January 8th, 1904**

At 8 o'clock.
Tickets may be procured of Mrs. Lester, members of the classes, or at Alexandra Royal College.

Fancy dress not compulsory.

CAMPBELL'S

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS

AT HALF PRICE Chatelaine and Wrist Bags, all reduced one-half.	REAL LACE HANDKER- CHIEFS Dainty Real Lace Handkerchiefs at Special Prices for this week.
OPERA CLOAKS Fans and Evening Gloves for the ball.	LACE COLLARS Silk Ties, Berthas and Boleros.

Our entire line of French
Teagowns at
SPECIAL PRICES

For The New Year

BRILLIANT CUT GLASS

Nothing gives a more beautiful effect to a luncheon or dinner table than rich Cut Glass. We have a varied assortment of large and small pieces, any one of which would make an elegant and useful New Year's Present.

G. E. REDFERN,

Established 1862. 43 Government Street. Telephone 118.

"Laughing Water,"

JUST OUT
The best Intermezzo Two-Step of the day. A worthy successor to "Hawthorn," "Anona," "Soko," etc. We try it over for you.

New Music

Vocal and Instrumental. Popular, Standard and Classic. Something new every day at

FLETCHER BROS.

93 Government Street

**A Merry and Happy
Xmas is the Wish to
all from
M. W. WAITT & CO.**

XMAS TREE GIFTS!

We have a good line of useful articles for little money. All kinds of Knives, Pocket Scissors, Purses, Staying Cups and Brushes; Nutcrackers, Napkin Rings, Cloth Brushes, Card Cases, Pigskin Purses; Pocket Corkscrews and Openers for the New Year, at

FOX'S, - 78 Government Street

E. J. WALL. W. A. SMITH

CHRISTMAS!

EVERYTHING IS NOW READY FOR CHRISTMAS.

Choice Navel Oranges, large Japs, the best Raisins, Nuts and Figs procurable. We have specially selected a lot of Geese and Turkeys for our own trade. Place your orders early and so obtain a good selection.

Windsor Grocery Company,

Opposite Post Office, Govt. Street.

JUST A LIST

To Help You Solve that Present Question

FOR GENTLEMEN. A Waterman Fountain Pen. New Books. Collar and Cuff Sets. Dressing Cases. A Free Calf Poet.	FOR LADIES. Padded Poets. Mantua Sets. Sting Horn Dressing Set. Writing Case. Photo Frame.
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FOR THE BARRISTERS.
A Boy's or Girl's Own Annual.
Chums.
A \$1.50 Fountain Pen.
Books from 10c. to \$2.00.

Best Calendars and Xmas Cards in the Province

Victoria Book & Stationery Co., Limited

Local News.

James Bay Methodist.—The Sunday school in connection with the James Bay Methodist church will hold the annual Christmas entertainment this evening. A good programme will be rendered.

Spring Ridge Methodist.—This evening seems to be a popular date for Christmas entertainments, as no less than five are booked among them being that at the Spring Ridge Methodist Sunday school. The youngsters have prepared an excellent programme.

First Presbyterian Sunday School.—Tonight the annual Christmas entertainment will be held in the First Presbyterian Sunday school. Refreshments will be served and a good time given to the children.

Glee Club Concert.—The Stanford University Glee and Mandolin Club will give a performance at the Victoria theatre on the evening of Friday next. This is the eighth annual concert tour of the club and the programme they render is said to be specially entertaining.

Christmas Entertainment.—Tomorrow evening the joint entertainment of the James Bay Presbyterian Sunday School and Second Victoria Company Boys' Brigade, will be held in St. James hall. A very fine programme will be provided and those who attend are assured of a very pleasant time.

Tenders for Timber Limits.—W. S. Gore, deputy commissioner of lands and works, has given notice that sealed tenders will be received up to noon of Wednesday, January 20, 1904, from any person who may desire to obtain a lease to cut timber from certain lands on a timber limit on the Klamath river.

Hospital Ball.—The ladies having in charge the decoration of the supper tables for the hospital ball request donations of flowers, and especially of berries, or berries holly, which may be sent as soon as possible to the Assembly hall. Contributions towards the supper may be sent to the Assembly hall tomorrow, the earlier the better.

Annual Treat.—This evening the Sunday school of Calvary Baptist church will hold its annual Christmas entertainment. Tea for the members of the school will commence at 6:30 o'clock, and the programme at 8 o'clock. A good programme has been arranged and parents and friends are invited to be present and have an enjoyable time.

Baptism on Shipboard.—On board the steamer Princess Beatrice, coming from Vancouver yesterday evening, Miss Matsunami Yamaguchi, en route to Japan, was baptized by the Rev. George K. Hargrave, assisted by Revs. Lemm, A. McLeod, King and Mansfield. The lady is bound for coming place where churches are few, hence the ceremony.

Successful Entertainment.—Last evening the annual Christmas entertainment of St. Barnabas Sunday school was held at the Odd Fellows hall, Powell road. Tea was served the children at 5 o'clock and later in the evening a musical programme was rendered, followed by the usual visit of Santa Claus and distribution of prizes were during the year. There was a large attendance and a most successful time was spent by all.

Has Escaped.—Allen Davidson, the prisoner who escaped from the city lock-up, when held there on account of the Vancouver police, who wanted him for assisting in a robbery at the Terminal City, has made his escape from the jurisdiction of the Canadian police. He managed to get on board the steamer Clallam by boarding that vessel on the off-side from the wharf from an Indian canoe as the steamer was leaving, and so made his escape.

That Shanghai Story.—In respect to the item appearing Sunday in regard to the queries which were made from Milwaukee about the possible smuggling of Ludolph McCummings on board the Alsterne, it is to be explained that the part which the local German consul played in the affair was only the result of inquiries made of him by United States Consul Smith, who was communicated with by parties from Milwaukee. From Mr. Carl Loevenberg, the local German consul, it is learned that the story, in the first place, must have been started by some practical joker. The statement attributed to McCummings that Mr. Loevenberg started such a rumor is, of course, absolutely false.

FRUILLICHE WEHNACHTEN.

German Residents of Victoria Have a Jolly Christmas Time Last Night.

In A. O. U. W. hall last evening there was a great gathering of the German residents of Victoria to celebrate the Christmas tree festival. There were also present the German skippers of several ships in port, and a number of visitors, natives of the Dominion and foreign, who happened to be in the city. As is always the case where the Teutons foregather everybody was as happy as could be, and the proceedings passed off amidst jollity and goodfellowship.

There were German foods and drinks galore; schmitzel and pretzel, blutwurst, lieberwurst, schwartzbrod and apfelkuchen, kaffee and chocolate, sauerkraut and pumpernickel to no end. Then there were many fine German songs, addresses and recitations, all of which were very much enjoyed. The festivities were kept up with much spirit. The Christmas tree was well laden with gifts for the young people, who were present in force.

The German community in Victoria is growing steadily, and it is suggested that the time has come for the erection here of a German Protestant church to meet the religious needs of the German citizens.

ABLE PAPER BY MR. N. DENISON

Members of Natural History Society Hold Important and Interesting Meeting.

There was a very large attendance at the Natural History Society last evening. On behalf of the song bird committee it was reported that the skylarks and remaining pair of robins had been liberated and so far as known were doing well in freedom. Interesting letters were received from Mr. Fluger, of Portland, through whom the birds had been imported, and from Prof. Hornaday, of New York, who had inspected them at New York. It transpires that proper care had not been taken of the birds in transshipment, during which time they had not been fed. Altogether the experience gained so far will be very useful in future.

Mr. Napier Denison, of the local meteorological office, gave a valuable address on "The Effects of Atmospheric Pressure on the Earth's Crust," illustrated by diagrams. This was really a continuation of a subject dealt with by him over two years ago prior to his visit to England, when he read papers before the Royal Meteorological Society and British Association. His address consisted of a description of records taken from Victoria and Toronto seismographs. The results of five years' observations laid out the theory enunciated by Mr. Denison, that the movements of the horizontal pendulum of the seismograph are influenced by the changes of weight on the crust of the earth produced by high and low atmospheric pressure. One does not readily grasp the fact, but a rise of one inch in the barometer means increasing the weight upon a certain prescribed area of the earth's surface many millions of tons. This, Mr. Denison argues, tilts the earth, appreciably and the tilting is indicated by the pendulum of the seismograph, and when the storm area is a wide one the approach of the storm is often shown by the seismograph long before the barometer gives any sign of it. Among other movements the pendulum has been found to swing towards the coast during extreme high tides and away from it when the load of water has been removed.

The phenomena which enter into and affect the conduct of the seismograph are quite complex and only very minute observations extending over a series of years can be relied upon for general conclusions. The compilation of data is therefore a very elaborate and laborious process, which is one of the penalties imposed by exact science upon its votaries. Although the seismograph is used by the world over by observers in connection with earthquakes, tides, etc., perhaps Mr. Denison's work has been the most original and painstaking in regard to the particular question of atmospheric pressure, and undoubtedly his efforts will be towards greater attention being directed to the investigation of the subject he has in hand. Considerable discussion and a hearty vote of thanks followed.

North Saanich School Banquet

Very Merry Christmas of the North Saanich School Scholars.

Interesting Programme of Music and Exercises is Carried Out.

The North Saanich school held its Christmas entertainment in the form of a banquet and general good time. The inside of the schoolhouse was a mass of green wreaths and flags. Entering the door the scholars and parents first gazed upon a huge tree, lighted and decorated with presents; while upon the walls hung the large picture of the Queen, created during the days of Great Britain, and upon the ceilings green wreaths stretched in all directions. Lanterns were hung upon strings from the ceiling, while one row of large Japanese lanterns, with the words "Merry Christmas" upon them, were very noticeable.

The room in which the banquet was held, was very much crowded with the scholars, their parents and friends. From North Saanich and Victoria about 5:30 o'clock sixty children sat down at the large tables, which were full of chicken, turkey, and all the good things to be had at Christmas. After the dinner the children, parents and friends sat at the tables, and it was 8:30 p.m. when supper was finally over. The Rev. Mr. Whibrey, Rev. Mr. Wright and Rev. Dr. Reid asked the usual blessings.

After supper the following programme was given in a manner that proved the ability of the teacher, Mr. J. H. Monk, not only as a teacher in the regular elementary courses, but the valuable system he has demonstrated in the teaching of music:

Song Carol—"Merry Christmas Bells."
Recitation—John Elmer.
Song—"Who is He?"
Recitation—Matilda Miller.
Song—"The First Noel."
Recitation—Katherine Sangster.
Song—"I'm Going Back to Dixie."
Recitation—Ernest Jackson.
Song—"While the Shepherds Watched Their Flocks at Night."
Recitation—Gladys John.
Song—"Hark! Hark! Sweet Chiming."
Recitation—Alice North.
Song—"Here to the Fox."
Graphophone Selection—S. Roberts Jr.
Song—"Good Night, Ladies."
Song—"Hail Britannia."
Song—"Auld Lang Syne."

After the excellent programme had concluded the teacher, with the help of some of those present, distributed the presents to the scholars, and the happiness upon their faces manifested their delight. A very pleasant surprise was given the teacher in the form of a solid silver shaving cup and brush with the following address by two of the scholars, Terra McDonald and Margaret Lemm.
"Mr. Monk: Dear Teacher—We, your pupils in North Saanich day school, desire, at this festive season, to express our gratitude for your patience and unflinching kindness in training us in the various departments of education to fit us for future usefulness. We, therefore, beg your acceptance of this small present as a token of our esteem, with the sincere wish that you may fully enjoy this, and many following Xmas seasons."

"We are, dear sir, most respectfully,
"Xmas, 1903."
"YOUR SCHOLARS."

After the enthusiasm had subsided the teacher, with deep feeling, said the hardest task of the evening was to thank his scholars for his kindness in the gift that was so unexpected. Speaking of the past he said that during his fourteen years of teaching, met with better co-operation and goodwill than in his few years of teaching in North Saanich; he had done his best and felt that he had done his duty. As to the future, if the same kindness and spirit of fellowship were given to him, he felt assured that they would all have a beneficial period of teaching, which he would always remember. As to himself, perhaps some of his hearers in the district might deem him peculiar in not visiting more than he did, but it was nothing but love and goodwill in his heart. For all, but he was one of those that thought staying at home and attending to his own business was best. He had met with the hearty co-operation of the parents and friends in the attempt to have the banquet and Christmas tree, and the tables and decorations demonstrated the help that was given, and nowhere could a better table be gotten up.

After he had concluded with the applause had subsided, the folks present sang: "He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and gave the teacher three cheers.
Rev. Dr. Reid, of Victoria, said he wished to express his very pleasant feelings of gladness in the manner in which the enthusiasm was shown during the banquet; nothing but goodwill was expressed for each other, and since his first trip to Saanich years ago, had he seen such a jolly feeling of enjoyment and fellowship in a gathering of that kind. As an old pioneer he was enthused by the realization of a feeling which existed among the people and friends of the North Saanich school, and he moved a vote of thanks to the teacher, parents and scholars for the jolly, good feast they had given. Three cheers were heartily given.

The North Saanich school was built in 1898, the old school being inadequate to hold the scholars, and through the persistent efforts of some of the energetic to procure a new building. Since its erection three teachers have taught, including the present teacher and one of those left to be named. The attendance is steadily increasing, and at the rate new members are coming into the neighborhood the school will have to be enlarged. The present board of trustees, composed of Mr. Peter Emery, Alexander McDonald and Rufus North, secretary, and the satisfaction of the board of trustees have given them continued in their positions for a long time.

PERSONALS.

Rear-Admiral J. L. Hammett, C.V.O., and Mrs. Lacon Hammett were received by His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey at Yildiz Kiosk on November 27th, when they were presented by the British Ambassador Sir Nicolas O'Connor. His Majesty was pleased to promote Rear-Admiral Hammett from the 3rd Class to the Grand Cordon of the Medjidie, and to confer on Mrs. Lacon Hammett the Grand Cordon of the "Chefakak," set in brilliants. Commander C. E. Tower and Lieut. Commander Travers, who were in attendance on Rear-Admiral Hammett, were also presented to His Majesty, as also was Mrs. Tower.

W. Jackson, a former Victoria boy, who for seven years has made his home in Portland, Ore., is here spending the holidays with his family.

Rev. W. Ravel and Mrs. Ravel of New Zealand, are guests at the Dominion.

Thos. Fawcett, purser of the Charmer, has returned from an enjoyable trip to California.

Peter Herman and sons of Port Essington, are in the city guests at the Dominion.

F. J. Pearson, C. J. Erb, Chemist; A. Gordon, Smith; John Manders, Tailor; R. D. Munro, J. W. McDonald, Vancouver; R. L. McIntosh, Port Essington; T. D. Conway and wife, Ladysmith, are registered at the Victoria.

Rev. Mark Guy Pearce, the far-famed English preacher, lecturer and author, has arrived at Vancouver. He will come on to Victoria in a day or two.

Henry Gray and A. S. Raymond, San Francisco; J. H. Brownlee, Seattle and C. D. Gower, Toronto, are at the Dillard.

F. Carter-Cotton is at the Dillard.

E. J. Cotte, general passenger agent of the C. P. R., Vancouver, is at the Dillard.

James Brown, Chibulwa; C. A. Sargent, Geo. W. Adams and Mrs. P. Evans, Vancouver, and R. A. Atkin, Montreal, are at the Vernon.

W. C. Moody of Butler, Mont., as at the Queen's.

L. Olistad and family, of Grand Forks, N. D., are at the Queen's.

Xmas Cakes ! Xmas Puddings !

Unsurpassable in quality, from 75c. each. Genuine Scotch Shortbread, per 1 lb. Cake, 25c.

CRUMPETS ! FRESH EVERY DAY. CRUMPETS ! 20 CENTS PER DOZEN.

London & Vancouver Bakeries

25 Government St., and 73 Fort St.

'Phone A361. D. W. HANBURY, Pro.



In the Lumberman's Shanty.

One of the hardest things in the life of the lumbermen, the miner and the prospector is being deprived of the good things to eat which men have who live comfortably at home.

The Victor Brand of Evaporated Cream has brought the luxury of good living into the camp and the shanty. For all cooking purposes, for Tea and for Coffee it is fully equal to the richest fluid cream.

Mfd. by The Charlottetown Condensed Milk Co., Charlottetown, P. E. I.

DINNEFORD'S

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.

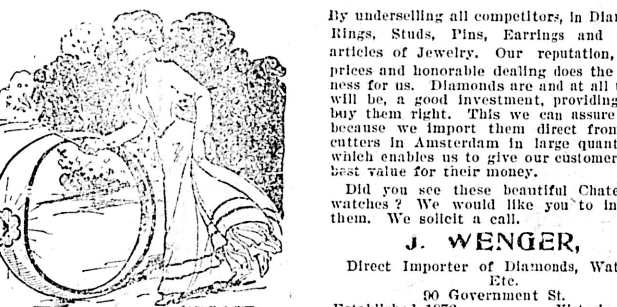
Safest and most Gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sickness of Pregnancy.



Fuse Wire and Electrical Battery Zincs

THE CANADA METAL CO., TORONTO, - - - - - ONT.

We Keep Our Stock Moving



By underselling all competitors, in Diamond Rings, Studs, Pins, Earrings and other articles of Jewelry. Our reputation, low prices and honorable dealing does the business for us. Diamonds are and at all times will be, a good investment, providing you buy them right. This we can assure you, because we import them direct from the cutters in Amsterdam in large quantities, which enables us to give our customers the best value for their money.

Did you see these beautiful Chatelaine watches? We would like you to inspect them. We solicit a call.

J. WENGER, Direct Importer of Diamonds, Watches, etc., 90 Government St., Victoria, B.C. Established 1876.

Always See That the MATCHES

You Buy Bear The Name

Our Pearl Brands:—"King Edward," "Headlight," "Eagle," "Victoria," "Little Comet," "Our Sulphur Brands:—"Telegraph," "Telephone."

A Quick, Sure Every time by of These Brands Dealers Every

Light is Ensured Using Any One For Sale by where.

JAMES MITCHELL, AGENT FOR B. C.

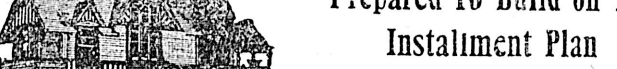
We have 150 choice lots in different parts of the city and are

Prepared To Build on The Installment Plan

We have every facility for doing work at reasonable rates and aim to give satisfaction. Particulars cheerfully furnished. Repair work carefully and promptly attended to.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS 159 Yates Street TELEPHONE A750.

MOORE & WHITTINGTON, ESTABLISHED 1895



Corticelli

SPPOOL SILK

The Strong for Silk

Spool Silk for dressmaking and family sewing, is the best silk made. For hand or machine use it has no equal. Corticelli Silk runs smoothly in the needle; it is always even in size and always full length and full strength. Ask for "Corticelli" Sewing Silk and refuse all substitutes.

WASH SILKS are put up in patent holder, which prevents waste by tangling or soiling; keeps each shade separate and automatically measures a correct needleful. It is recommended as the only proper way to put up filo and floss silks, and used by art societies everywhere.

Corticelli B

Skirt Protector

is of firm and even texture. When soiled a sponge or brush makes it clean again, and no damage done. It has peculiar wearing qualities and perfectly straight selvage.

For sale everywhere.

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XMAS SHOPPINGS

Neckwear any shape, Silk Suspenders, Silk Handkerchiefs, Smoking Jackets,

—AT—

ARTHUR HOLMES 78 YATES STREET, CORNER BROAD

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A MESSAGE TO MEN

Is Your Back Weak?

Have You Dragging Pains?

Are You Easily Tired?

Have You Varicose?

If you have any of those symptoms, or any other sign of the breaking down of your nerves and vitality, you will find new life in Electricity.

You will say as Mr. Richard Pincombe, of Poplar Hill, Ont., read his letter:

DR. McLAUGHLIN,

Dear Sir,—The Belt is simply perfection. It did for me what doctors have been trying to do with medicine for the last four years—that is, to cure my stomach. I am stronger and better in health now than I have been for years. Our neighbors and relatives are surprised.

I don't see how anyone can doubt the value of Electricity as the most natural of all remedies for the cure of ailments which afflict the human body.

\$25.00 CASH

Will secure you an Acre of Choice Land adjoining the City Limits, within easy reach of the tram. Balance in quarterly payments with a low rate of interest.

PEMBERTON & SON
45 FORT STREET

Silk and Linen Goods

We have in stock a great variety of Table Covers, Dollies, Handkerchiefs, Cushion Covers, etc. Ladies' Dressing Gowns and Jackets, Shawls, Scarfs and Ties. A choice and extensive variety of Chinaware.

THE MIKADO BAZAAR, 138 Government Street
Next Victoria Hotel.

Whole Corn

One Car Yellow Corn, Just Received. Get Prices,

The Sylvester Feed Co.
Tel. 413 87-89 Yates Street.

RANGE AT ESQUIMALT GOES OUT OF WAS FIRST INTENDED FEDERAL FIELD

Comment Regarding Inconvenience of Comox Range Brings Out Fact.

In connection with the comment amongst naval men in regard to the inconvenience and also the danger to the vessels of His Majesty, as instanced by the recent stranding of H. M. S. Flora in Baynes sound, by the rifle range for the Esquimalt squadron being situated at Comox, it is well to remember that had it not been for the fact that the owner of a block of land sought by the Admiralty for the purpose of locating the range at Esquimalt, the range would have been located at the naval port, and the ships of the Esquimalt squadron would not have been obliged, at inconvenience and danger, to go to Baynes sound for six weeks at a time when class firing was needed.

When the question of a rifle range for the sailors of the North Pacific squadron was under consideration negotiations were made through a local firm, the owners of the property referred to, and the arrangements would have been concluded, had not the owner of the property decided to hold out for what was considered an exorbitant price. The naval authorities refused to pay the amount sought for the property, which would have allowed a range up to one mile and a half, and consequently a range was provided elsewhere.

The present location at Comox was decided upon, but aside from the inconvenience of the ships having to proceed to the northern port for rifle practice, what was saved by the admiralty in the purchase price of the property, has been lost many times over as a result of the stranding of the Flora, an accident which involved a loss to His Majesty's navy of many times the exorbitant amount which the owner of the land sought at Esquimalt asked for his property.

The loss to Victoria in a monetary sense as a result of the range being located at Comox is no small one, and merchants of this city would doubtless have been glad to have donated a fund for the purchase of a local range. As it was, it was thought at the time that the negotiations for the land sought as Esquimalt were being carried to completion, but the owner would not agree to accept a fair price, and the deal was broken off.

HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.
Remarkable General Results of the Series Just Concluded.

While no particulars as to the results of the Provincial High school examinations are yet available for publication, sufficient is known in a general way to declare that the results will show rather a remarkable variation of comparisons throughout the province. Superintendent Robinson, of the education department, who was seen yesterday at the Government buildings by a Colonist representative, said that Victoria stood exceptionally high, in fact, it could hardly be better. On the other hand, he regretted to say, that Vancouver was exceptionally bad; in fact, it could hardly be much worse. Another point worth note is that the city of Nelson schools have attained the highest percentage of any schools in the province.

SUNLIGHT SOAP

Sunlight Soap freshens and preserves Linoleums and Oilcloths.

If you wash linoleums and oilcloths with ordinary soap you will find the colors will fade. You can preserve their colors and make them last a long time if you wash them with Sunlight Soap. When dirty, wash with warm water and Sunlight Soap, rinse with clean water and wipe completely dry with a soft cloth. Use Sunlight Soap throughout the house. It makes homes bright and hear's light. It contains no impurities or free alkalis to injure the most delicate fabric.

ASK FOR THE OCTAGON BAR.
Sunlight Soap washes the clothes white and won't injure the hands.
LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, TORONTO.

Proceedings in The Will Case

Mr. Justice Drake Refuses to Allow Plaintiff to Examine Books.

Application of Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, K.C., Counsel for Intervener Postponed

Yesterday morning in the County court Mr. Justice Drake heard the application of the solicitor for Mrs. John Oliver Dunsinuir for right to examine the books of the E. & N. Railway Company, the Wellington Colliery Company, the Union Colliery Company and the R. Dunsinuir & Sons' Company, including the ledgers. C. A. Barry made the application. The request was made that the books should be open at all reasonable times for examination by an accountant. It was to cover the period from November, 1900, to December, 1901.

Mr. Barry further requested that the examination of the defendant James Dunsinuir and Hon. C. E. Pooley should not be proceeded with until the books had been inspected, otherwise the cross-examination of these witnesses would be prejudiced for want of relevant knowledge.

An affidavit was filed by D. M. Rogers, one of the intervenor's solicitors, in which he declared that while the defendant's solicitors had not actually refused to allow examination, they had delayed the inspection.

His Lordship said he failed to see what possible connection this application had with the present case. The issue now being tried was the validity of the last will and testament of Alexander Dunsinuir. Before an order to inspect the books could be given it would be necessary to establish their right so to do.

Mr. Barry said the books in question had been produced for inspection in a discovery proceeding. All they wanted now was the production of those which were ordered at the time of the examination.

A. P. Luxton, who represented the defendant, Mr. James Dunsinuir, stated that he was intervenor the only party to the suit the accounts might have a material bearing on the matter. The books produced for inspection in connection with the examination for discovery were not for the purpose of establishing the payment of \$5,000 made by the defendant to a San Francisco firm. Referring to the examination of James Dunsinuir and Hon. C. E. Pooley, Mr. Luxton said that the gentlemen might be examined at any time prior to application had the defendant's counsel so desired.

Mr. Luxton filed an affidavit by himself in reply to that already put in by D. M. Rogers.

It set forth that the minute books had been open to Mr. Barry. Mr. Rogers had given permission to inspect the books of the company, and had then come down with an account of the E. & N. office without notifying the counsel of the defendant.

Mr. Luxton said they were not entitled, unless under an order from His Lordship, to inspect the books of the company by an accountant.

Mr. Barry referred to the affidavit of Mr. Luxton, in which he contended that there were inaccuracies, and the citing of cases, after which His Lordship said that the evidence would only be regarded as consequential. It was useful only in case the applicants succeeded. It would be necessary to establish the case first. If the suit was successful, the intervenor would only be a party to the suit.

His Lordship refused to grant the application as it was not relevant in assisting the court in coming to a decision.

The further hearing of the case will start at 11 o'clock this morning in the Assize court.

THE GOPHER'S TAIL.

An Unique Xmas Gift Sent Out by Management of Winnipeg Free Press.

The Manitoba Free Press has just sent to a limited number of its friends and patrons something exceedingly unique in the way of a gift intended partially to serve the purpose of an advertisement for one of Winnipeg's pushing journalistic enterprises, a genuine gopher's tail, the same being suitable to be worn as a watch chain. Accompanying the interesting little article is a well-gotten up booklet, with numerous illustrations containing the Cree folk story of the gopher's origin, set forth in print for the first time. As to why the supply of tails is somewhat limited, the manager makes the following explanation: "The Indians on the reserves in Alberta declared that their squaws and youngsters would have no trouble in getting thousands of gophers if they were required, but the gophers, as if they had sensed the plot against them, retired to their burrows much earlier than for many years. Only 833 tails having been received in Winnipeg in time to be mounted, the same number and no more of this book have been printed."

THE WEATHER.

Meteorological Office, Victoria, Dec. 28.—8 p. m. SYNOPSIS.

The barometer is slowly falling along the coast in advance of an ocean low pressure area which is likely to cause a general rainfall west of the Cascades. The weather here has been over the entire Pacific Slope for some days.

TEMPERATURE.

	Min.	Max.
Victoria	40	44
New Westminster	39	43
Kamloops	28	38
Barkerville	10	34
Dawson	2	2
Calgary	12	30
Winnipeg	10	16
Portland, Ore.	42	50
San Francisco, Cal.	42	58

FORECASTS.

For 24 hours from 5 a. m. (Pacific time) Tuesday:

Victoria and Vicinity: Light or moderate winds, unsettled and mild with occasional rains.

Lower Mainland: Light or moderate winds, unsettled and mild with rain.

VICTORIA DAILY RECORD.

Report for 24 hours ending 5 p. m. Observations taken daily at 5 a. m. noon and 5 p. m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 27.

Deg.	Mean	Deg.
5 a.m.	43	Mean
Noon	44	Highest
5 p.m.	42	Lowest

The velocity and direction of the wind were as follows:

5 a.m.	2 miles southeast.
Noon	4 miles east.
5 p.m.	4 miles north.

Average state of weather—Cloudy. Rain—0.1 inch.

Barometer at noon—Observed.....30.412 Corrected.....30.442

NEW WESTMINSTER.

Barometer at 5 p. m.—Corrected.....30.40

MONDAY, DEC. 28.

Deg.	Mean	Deg.
5 a.m.	41	Mean
Noon	42	Highest
5 p.m.	42	Lowest

The velocity and direction of the wind were as follows:

5 a.m.	2 miles north.
Noon	2 miles north.
5 p.m.	2 miles north.

Average state of weather—Cloudy.

Barometer at noon—Observed.....30.216 Corrected.....30.246

NEW WESTMINSTER.

Barometer at 5 p. m.—Corrected.....30.24

Easy to Take Easy to Operate

Because purely vegetable—yet thorough, prompt, healthful, satisfactory—

Hood's Pills

Murderers Who Survived Garrote

Two Men Who Are Declared Dead by the Law But Still Are Living.

Were Strangled by the Garrote for Eight Minutes But Not Killed.

A gruesome tale of an execution in murders who were garrotted to pay the penalty of taking the life of their fellows lived after the executioner had garrotted them, and were taken away by friends who found them breathing and moaning, as they lay bound on the floor of a church, exposed as dead after the executioner had done his worst, were brought by the steamer Shipano Maru.

The weird and sensational tale came from Amulung, in Cagayan province, of the restless Philippines, where four murderers were garrotted for their crimes early in November, and now two of the four are alive, though officially dead. Although the death certificates were signed by the provincial physician and approved by the judge, who passed the death sentence on the men, two of the four, reports the Manila Times, are now breathing, are conscious, taking nourishment, are able to exchange a few words with their families, in fact, they are actually alive, although officially dead.

It appears that an American official superintendent the execution as the provincial authorities were unable to find an official to do so. The official practiced with the garrote, which was a strangulation garrote instead of one whose office is to break the spinal column, and on the day of the execution he had about perfected himself in the use of the machine.

There was some question prior to the execution as to the time that the victims should be in the machine, and after consideration it was decided that eight minutes was all that was necessary to complete the work of death, and that four hours was to be the length of time for the bodies to be exposed after the sentence of death had been carried out.

Accordingly, the execution was carried out. When taken from the machine, the limp bodies, still bound, were laid on the floor of the church of Amulung that the relatives might come and claim them and take them away.

Legend, the provincial surgeon, certified to the death of all four men, and the judge gave the seal of official approval. Some three hours later three constabulary officers entered the church to see if the bodies had been claimed. They found the bodies still on the floor, still in their winding sheets, three bodies, squirming and contorting themselves in half-conscious endeavors to release themselves from the cords which bound them.

Groans that sounded unearthly in the church came from their throats. Two of the men seemed to be returning to full consciousness, and the constabulary officers, bending over them, asked in Spanish if there was anything they wanted. They replied "water." Water and restoratives were freely applied, the men unbound and shortly afterward were able to be removed by their friends. The other man was dead, the executioner having been successful in his case. One of the three that were removed also died shortly afterward, but the remaining two at last reports were still alive and convalescing, and both may live for many years to come.

It is written in the court records of their native province that both are dead, having paid with their lives for the crime of murder. The law, therefore, can neither punish them again, nor can it recognize their continued existence.

"Are you sure he really loves you?" "Why, of course. His proposal wasn't the least bit romantic. He stammered so I could scarcely understand him."—New York American.

Kidneys and Liver Affected by Colds

Backache and Pains in the Legs the Common Symptoms—Cure Comes With the Use of

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills

Exposure to damp, cold weather is a frequent cause of kidney disease. Sitting in a draught so as to chill the feet and legs is frequently enough to bring on congestion of the liver.

Colds settle on the liver and kidneys as well as the lungs. The results are diseases of the most dreadfully painful and fatal sort.

As yet there has never been discovered a preparation equal to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills as a prompt and thorough cure for derangements of these great filtering organs.

Pains in the back, headache, urinary disorders, biliousness, liver complaint, dyspepsia and constipation soon disappear when Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are used.

Mr. H. B. Dixon, McGillivray, B. C., writes: "I have found Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to be exactly what I needed. Since 1897 I have been on the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass branch of the C. P. R., employed in all capacities and exposed to all kinds of weather. I contracted a severe cold, then pains across the back, and owing to the hard fare we sometimes had to live on, the liver got sluggish and out of working order. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills seemed to be the very treatment I needed and they have made me well again. I also used Dr. Chase's Ointment for Eczema last summer. It cost 60 cents a box, but was worth \$60. The cure was complete."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill a dose, 25 cents a box at all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto. To protect you against imitations, the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase are on every box.

Cyko

Photographic Paper! Prints at Night Permanent in Results! Simple in Manipulation! to be had at

Barber Bros., 95 Government Street.

If a man loves a girl that's his business. If she loves him that's her business. If they both love each other that's their business.

If they get married that's the preacher's business.

If they buy their New Year Perfumes and Toilet Waters from us that's our business.

You can look all over town and you will not find a better selection of Perfumes and Toilet Waters than ours from which to choose your New Year Gifts.

J. L. WHITE, & CO.,
People's Popular Prescription Pharmacy. Phone 512. Near Postoffice.

Up-to-Date Tailoring

—AT—
Schaper & Reid's

Broad Street.
Opp. Colonist Office.
Splendid lines of Woolens, Serges, Fannings and Overcoatings.
Suits and Overcoats for \$20 and upwards; Trousers, \$5.00.
Fit absolutely guaranteed

CORDWOOD and STOVEWOOD

Truck, Dray and General Teaming Done.
J. B. PAINTER.
Office, 21 Cormorant Street.
Residence, 17 Pine street, Victoria West. Telephone 424.

Dutch Bulbs!

To clear outstock at COST PRICE
Johnston's Seed Store

Christmas, 1903. New Year, 1904.

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS

May Health, Happiness and Prosperity be the lot of all our Customers and Friends.

Cooper & Linklater
The New Tailors.
47 Fort St., cor. Broad. Strictly First Class.

W. JONES,
Dominion Government Auctioneer.

Next sale will be held at Mart, 58 Broad Street.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Dec. 29th, 30th, 31st.

JAPANESE WARE—Porcelain, Tea Sets, Cups and Saucers, Cabinets, Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, Ebony Trays, etc.

ALSO BIG AUCTION SALE OF FURNITURE, including every article of household necessities.

Phone 294. **W. JONES,** Auctioneer.

AUCTION

The undersigned has been instructed by Mr. P. Glenzie to sell on his premises,

Swan Lake
Monday, January 4, 11 a.m.

The whole of his Farm Stock, consisting of

Milch Cows, Heifers, Horses, Pigs, Poultry, Implements, Household Furniture,

See posters for particulars. Lunch provided. Terms cash.

W. T. Hardaker, Auctioneer

About to Move

Wanted a store or office in the business centre, Yates, Government or Fort St., Government preferred. Can do with space in office of any other company. Persons desiring to rent all or part of their premises Address

The Western Medicine Company
19 Broad Street.

New Designs

—OF—
MASON & RISCH PIANOS

We have a new carload in of the superb instruments. The new styles are the most

ever produced by this celebrated firm. Easy terms. Special inducements for Xmas trade.

Hicks & Lovick Piano Co.
88 Government St.

White Rock

The World's Best Table Water!
It's Equal Is Unknown!

Mixes perfectly with everything FROM MILK TO CHAMPAGNE.

Try it. At all grocers and wine dealers.

Pither & Leiser

VICTORIA, B. C. IMPORTERS VANCOUVER, B. C.

Lamps, Vases, Tea and Dinner Sets, Fancy China.

A large line, suitable for

XMAS PRESENTS

B. C. Furniture Co., = 66-68 Government Street

THE PATERSON SHOE CO'S STORES

ALL THAT ARE LEFT

Of our Warm Slippers must be sold at once. From now till New Year's we offer the balance of our stock at sacrifice prices.

If You've Forgotten Anybody

At Xmas and wish to send them a New Year's Gift, call and get a pair of our new Slippers at a price that will surprise you. They've got to go this week.

THE PATERSON SHOE CO., LTD.

Evening Clothes

Evening Clothes are indispensable to the completeness of a gentleman's wardrobe. If you have't a dress suit, you should have one, and we will be very pleased if you'll let us show you some of our swell Dress and Tuxedo Suits.

ALLEN'S
Fit-Reform Wardrobe
73 GOVERNMENT ST., VICTORIA, B. C.

Few Christmas Suggestions

Smoking Jackets, Bath Robes, Gloves, Silk Mufflers, Dress Protectors, Initial Handkerchiefs, Knitted Vests, Silk Suspenders, &c.

Special by Express—"Neckwear"

We have the richest designs and most exquisitely blended coloring in NECKWEAR this season that possibly could be shown, direct from London and Paris manufactures.

SEA & GOWEN

Hatters and Furnishers, 64 Government Street

Esquimalt & Nanaimo Ry.

Reduced Rates for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays

Excursion rates will be in effect between all stations, tickets good for going journey, Thursday, December 24th, to Sunday, January 3rd inclusive, returning not later than Monday, January 4th.

Double Train Service

Thursday, December 24th. Trains leaving on same time as Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday trains.

All Trains are Cancelled on Xmas Day

GEO. L. COURTNEY,
Traffic Manager